

Date: February 23, 2004 Label No. EV369584300 US I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Donald Prater
Name (Print)

D.S. Prater
Signature

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Tsunobuchi, Hirokazu) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Application No.: Unassigned) Group Art Unit: Unassigned
)
Filed: February 23, 2004) Confirmation No.: Unassigned
)
Docket No.: 3140-010-01) Customer No.: 33432

For: OPTICAL INFORMATION READER AND OPTICAL INFORMATION READING METHOD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 23, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b)

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Documents were cited in parent Application No. 10/162,853, filed June 5, 2002. In accordance with M.P.E.P. §609, it is not necessary to provide copies of those documents with this filing.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before expiration of the three-month period following filing of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or

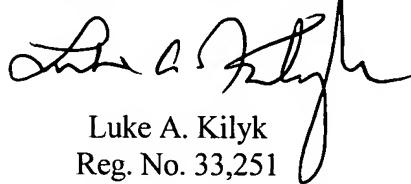
Information Disclosure Statement
U.S. Patent Application No. Unassigned

constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925 and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449 (REV 7-80)			Atty. Docket No. 3140-010-01		Application No. Unassigned	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT			APPLICANT: Tsunobuchi, Hirokazu			
			Filing Date: February 23, 2004		Group Art Unit: Unassigned	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER'S INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE, IF APPROPRIATE
	A	6,505,778	01/2003	Reddersen et al.	235	462.25	
	B	5,929,418	07/1999	Ehrhart et al.	235	462.27	
	C	5,345,605	09/1994	Motegi, Takamasa	340	7.42	
	D	5,701,588	12/1997	Morita et al.	340	7.56	
	E	5,563,402	10/1996	Reddersen et al.	235	436	
	F	5,900,613	05/1999	Koziol et al.	235	462.15	
	G	5,120,943	06/1992	Benz, Reiner	235	375	
	H	4,825,058	04/1989	Poland, McKee D.	235	462.01	
	I	6,318,636	11/2001	Reynolds et al.	235	472.01	
	J	5,780,831	07/1998	Seo et al.	235	462.1	
	K	6,578,766	06/2003	Parker et al.	235	462.01	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.